

From: John Anderson
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 2:45 PM
To: John Anderson
Subject: thailand travel stories

Greetings. I have the pleasure of doing media work for one of the great vacation destinations of the world – Thailand, where two cities (Bangkok and Chiang Mai) recently were voted the No. 1 and No. 2 best cities in the world by the readers of Travel + Leisure Magazine.

And why not? Luxurious hotels in every price range, fabulous food, great beaches, wonderful shopping and cultural sites, reasonable prices, rock-solid infrastructure, generous and friendly people. More than anything, these are what drive the amazing success story in Thailand, where economic growth this year is projected to be 6.5% to 7.5%, and where exports last month surged the most in 18 years to reach their highest level ever.

Thailand went through a lot of turmoil this past spring, but it has done an amazing turn around. In fact, despite the March-May unrest – which was confined to a small part of Bangkok -- tourism arrivals in Thailand were up for the first half of 2010 by 13 percent. This is a testament to the extraordinary resiliency of Thailand's travel and hospitality industries, and to the special place that Thailand has in peoples' hearts.

It's a great time to visit Thailand, and a great time to write about it. The Thai Tourism Authority has volumes of information and pictures they can provide if you are interested in highlighting Thailand – be it a simple blurb or an ambitious feature. And I can help by funneling information and arranging interviews with Thai authorities. And I am happy to field other requests you may have. Don't be shy.

If you're interested, my contacts are below. Best Regards, John Anderson

The Podesta Group provides representation for the country of Thailand. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

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